

This paper is submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed from the Patent Office on January 05, 2011. Claims 1 – 15 are pending as filed. In response to this requirement, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of **Group II, Claims 1 – 10** “drawn to a method of preparing a compound of the formula II using step ii) and wherein the starting material is a porphyrin of formula III.” Pending Restriction Requirement, page 2. The Applicants also provisionally elect to prosecute as the starting product the species of substance **4a** (5-(2'-cyanovinyl)mesoporphyrin dimethylester nickel (II) complex) and as the product the species of substance **7a** (quino[4,4a,5,6-efg]-annulated 7-demethyl-8-deethylmesoporphyrin) as listed in Table 1 of the specification.

As recommended by the Examiner, the Applicant canceled Claims 13 and 14.

Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 50-4514, referencing attorney docket number 29810-2001.

Respectfully submitted,

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